

TELEPHONE: 1-800-HELPBUS (1-800-435-7287)

> FACT FORM #601 REVISION DATE: 02/14/02

Mission/Purpose

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce is the state's primary agency for delivery of integrated services to business. Commerce's purpose is to:

- Foster the retention and creation of new jobs and investment opportunities in Wisconsin;
- Foster and promote economic business, export and community development; and
- Promote the public's health, safety and welfare through effective and efficient regulations, education and enforcement.

The state economic development agency offers:

BUSINESS FINANCING for:

- Capital assets
- Working capital
- Employee training
- High-technology research and development
- Business incubators
- Product development
- Continuing research for federal hightechnology grant winners
- Community planning and business assistance

- Community loans to business
- Community public facilities improvements
- Community infrastructure for a business expansion
- Rural business expansions and start-ups
- Minority business expansions and startups
- Employee buy out feasibility assessments
- Business investment in economically distressed areas

TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL SERVICES to:

- Small businesses and entrepreneurs
- Women- and minority-owned companies
- Technology firms seeking information, assistance, and proposal review
- Companies seeking to modernize their manufacturing processes
- Businesses seeking regulatory assistance
- Businesses looking to expand or needing alternative financing
- Minority firms seeking state-businesscontract certification
- Current and prospective exporters

- Venture capitalists seeking business investments
- Communities wanting to promote business start-ups, expansions, relocation's, and retention
- Communities wanting to revitalize their business districts
- Businesses owned by or hiring disabled persons
- Communities and companies for tourism advertising and marketing assistance

Business Helpline: 1-800-HELP-BUSiness Export Helpline: 1-800-XPORT-WIsconsin